

**Third Coast Surf Shop**

Ryan Gerard/Proprietor  
ryan@thirdcoastsurfshop.com

22 S. Smith St.  
New Buffalo, Mi. 49117  
Phone: 269-932-4575  
Fax: 269-932-4576

October 30, 2008

**OFFICIAL COMMENT**

IDEM

Re: Increased Pollution in the Great Lakes

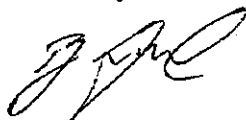
Dear IDEM staff,

Please consider this letter a firm NO to the idea of allowing local steel manufacturers and other polluters to increase the amount of unhealthy toxic waste they are allowed to dump into the Great Lakes Watershed. I am a small business owner whose livelihood relies directly on Lake Michigan and its beaches. If we continue to pollute the Lakes that we currently allow, let alone increase that rate, we are setting ourselves up for future disaster. We simply cannot afford the larger cost to our drinking water and to the incredible value the Great Lakes brings to our Midwest economy and quality of life. It is time to learn from our mistakes and find another way to sustain the profits of these giant corporations without endangering the very source that makes our lives in this region so special.

I am strongly opposed to any increase in the current effluent discharge dumped by any and all industries into Lake Michigan and the Great Lakes.

Thank you for your consideration and support.

Sincerely,



Ryan Gerard

Southern Lake Michigan region resident, small business owner and Great Lakes enthusiast

